

Detailed Action

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/26/2010 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gomas et al (US 2004/0186713) in View of Wenocur et al. (US 2003/0041110).

[Claims 1, 8, 11]: Regarding claim 1, Gomas discloses a communication service system for disabled persons, comprising:

a terminal unit (e.g. client computer) implemented for a disabled person and a non-disabled person that access a wired/wireless integrated network and desire to be provided with communication services (See P.1, [0011]), a communication interface for the wired/wireless (e.g. portable electronics) integrated network (See P.2, [0023]), and

providing voice and/or text communication services for the disabled person (See Fig.4, element 127). Gomas does not specifically disclose a communication characteristics registered with respect to the disabled person and the non-disabled person. However Wenocur discloses a system and method for electronic messaging system and adapting content for sensory and physically challenged persons , wherein the user may register with the system and wherein the communication characteristics are determined based on the registered user preferences(See Abstract, [0147]-[0149] and [0170]) and further wherein the communication characteristics are optimized to compensate for the differences between the sender and the client's preferences, machine capabilities and characteristics (see [0016] and [1128]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gomas' invention to include the features of Wenocur's invention to provide an efficient way to recognize the best mode of communication between the disabled person and the server computer or the users without disabilities.

[Claim 2]: Regarding claim 2, Gomas further discloses a communication service system, wherein the terminal unit has user interfaces with communication characteristics for the communication services which can be used by a non-disabled person, an auditory disabled person, a visually disabled person, and a speed disabled person, respectively (See P.2, [0022—[0024]]).

[Claim 3]: Regarding claim 3, Gomas discloses a system, wherein the non-disabled person has communication characteristics of hearing, speaking, reading and writing that are used as an interface, the visually disabled person has communication

characteristics of hearing, speaking and writing that are used as an interface(See P.2, [0024]-[0025]).

[Claim 9]: Regarding claim 9, Gomas discloses a system wherein the communication characteristics of the terminals include hearing, speaking, reading and writing communication characteristics (See Abstract).

Claims 4-7, 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gomas et al (US 2004/0186713) in View of Wenocur et al. (US 2003/0041110) as applied to claim 1 above and further in view of Putman (US 2008/0086564)

[Claim 4]: As per claim 4, Gomas/Wenocur do not specifically disclose that open API gateway supports protocols such as Session Initiation Protocol, etc. However, Putnam disclose an open API gateway unit which supports well known protocols including Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) and exploits middleware, such as Extensible Markup Language (XML) so as to communicate with the open API communication server. Gomas/Putnam do not specifically disclose Media Gateway Control (MAGACO) protocol, H. 323 protocol, Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) User Part (ISUP), Mobile Application Protocol (MAP), Intelligent Network Application Protocol (INAP), and Capabilities Application Protocol (CAP).Therefore, it would have been obvious to use

one of the well known supporting protocols as disclosed by Putman in order to communicate with the API communication server in Gomas/Wenocur's system.

[Claim 5]: Regarding claim 5, Gomas discloses a system comprising a framework unit (e.g. interface) for performing a plurality of functions including access to the communication services, authentication and discovery of the communication services (See P.4, [0065]), integrity management, load management, and fault management; and a service capability feature unit for providing a plurality of functions, including call control, messaging, user interaction, terminal capabilities, mobility, connectivity, presence and availability, and service routing, so as to allow application services to use resources and functions of the network (See P.4, [0064]-[0067]).

[Claim 6]: With respect to claim 6, Gomas discloses wherein the communication server unit is operated so that, if a connection request is received from a specific user terminal to use a corresponding communication service, the server unit routes the communication service to the voice and text conversion unit when voice and/or text conversion is required in consideration of communication characteristics of transmitting and receiving user terminals, and provides a communication service corresponding to voice and/or text returned from the voice and text conversion unit (See P.2, [0030]-[0031], and Fig.4).

[Claim 7]: Regarding claim 7, Gomas further discloses a communication service unit for providing the communication service in consideration of communication characteristics between terminals of disabled persons and between terminals of a non-disabled person and a disabled person (See P.1, [0011]);

a connection unit for supporting an interface with the wired/wireless integrated network and setting up a call in response to a communication service request received from the user (See P.4, [0062]);

a service routing unit for routing a corresponding communication service to support conversion into voice and/or text data in consideration of the characteristics of the respective terminals at the time of providing the communication service (See P.7, [0095]). Gomas does not specifically disclose a registration unit for registering characteristics of the respective terminals when the terminals use the communication service first time. However, Putman discloses a communication application server wherein the communication characteristics are registered and wherein the API communication interface operates to allow existing third party application service to access the wired/wireless network (See [0110] and [0210]). Putnam further discloses voice/text communication between the users (See [0035]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Gomas' invention to provide an efficient way to recognize the best mode of communication between the disabled person and the server computer or the users without disabilities.

[Claim 10]: Putman discloses a system further comprising the step of setting up a call from the transmitting user terminal to the opposite user terminal in response to the communication establishment request at step b) (See [0209]).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed on 10/26/2010 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant argues that prior arts of record, Gomas in view of Wenocur, alone or in combination do not disclose the feature wherein the voice and text conversion unit performs voice and/or text conversion if the open API communication server unit determines the communication characteristics of the terminal unit and the opposite terminal units are different. Examiner respectfully disagrees. Examiner notes that Wenocur discloses that if the content of the data sent over to a client computer is not supported by client's computer then the content may be converted to appropriate format (See [11128]). The applicant further argues that the messages in Wenocur's invention are only modified based on the receiving terminal's characteristics and not based on the differences between the characteristics of sending and receiving terminal. Examiner respectfully disagrees. Examiner notes that if a content is supported by the sending terminal and the conversion unit converts it to a different format based on the characteristics of the client's terminal, then the conversion unit must have the capability to detect the differences between the characteristics of the originating terminal and that of the receiving terminal.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Banafsheh Hadizanooz whose telephone number is 571-272-1242. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Xuan Thai can be reached on (571) 272- 7147. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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